List of Issues from Caucuses

Need for statement about why action is needed to address problem, including context for problem

Utility of and confidence in report of the Subcommittee on Synthesis of Current Knowledge

Information needed for understanding extent of problem, and how to get it
- Highest priority information needs
- Time required to significantly improve information base
- Research methods that expose marine mammals to sound
- Concerns about credibility of research funded by sound producers
- Data from analysis of strandings

Risk assessment process improvements
- Information
- Transparency

Permitting
- Resources for Agencies' permitting processes
- Identifying and agreeing on streamlining that meets goals of various interest groups, e.g. programmatic EIS, bundling of permits, *deminimus* option
- Debate about revising MMPA to address permitting issues

Mitigation
- Information about effectiveness and costs – how to obtain
- What to do given concerns about effectiveness
- Precaution component

International
- Global/transboundary nature of problem
- Mechanisms for international coordination on solutions
- Comparison of US and other countries re: management

Process for developing Executive Summary and highlighting "most important" recommendations

<u>Additional Issues</u>:

Mitigation
- Managing sound vs. managing effects
- Focus on mitigation that makes sense
- M&M references
    - agree to use
    - peer review
- Need clear statement re:what regulatory bodies should be doing re mitigation
- Be more specific about what should be done
- Adaptive management (effectiveness of mitigation with feedback to research)

Overall
- Consistency with other efforts on international level
- Impacts vs. Adverse effects
- Use of noise vs. sound
- Tone: presentation of issue not what we need to generate interest
    - Articulate nature of the problem
    - Identify what can be done about it today
- Length?

Synthesis Report
- Synthesis report not an accessible summary
-

Research caucus concerns:
- Resources for getting fundamental information
- Assessing/removing roadblocks to needed research
- Criticism of researchers (ethics, etc.)